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16 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
17 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

19 FAZI ZAND, individually and on behalf of all  
20 others similarly situated,

21 Plaintiff,

22 v.

23 ANTHEM, INC., d/b/a Anthem Health, Inc., an  
24 Indiana Corporation, THE ANTHEM  
COMPANIES, INC., an Indiana Corporation

25 Defendants.

Case No.

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

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2. Anthem is the parent company of Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, and the second largest health insurer in the United States. Anthem resulted from the 2004 merger of Anthem and WellPoint. In its Fourth Quarter 2014 results, Anthem stated it had approximately 37.5 million health care enrollees. It claimed 2014 net income totaling approximately \$2.6 billion.

3. On February 4, 2015, Anthem first disclosed that its computer systems had been hacked. The company stated it is continuing its investigation into the scope of the breach, but indicated that between approximately December 10, 2014 and January 27, 2015 unknown hackers were able to breach a database that contained as many as 80 million records of current and former customers, as well as employees (the “Anthem data breach”).<sup>1</sup>

4. However, even this first disclosure has already been challenged by experts. Brian Krebs, the noted cyber-security journalist who first broke the story on the Target data breach has reported that the Anthem data breach may have started as early as April 2014.<sup>2</sup>

5. The information accessed included names, addresses, birthdates, email, and employment information, income data, Member ID/Social Security numbers.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See Millions of Anthem Customers targeted in Cyberattack, NEW YORK TIMES, Reed Ableson and Matthew Goldstein, Feb. 5, 2015.

<sup>2</sup> <http://krebsonsecurity.com/2015/02/anthem-breach-may-have-started-in-april-2014/>.

<sup>3</sup> *See id.*

6. The massive Anthem data breach could have been prevented and should have been detected and disclosed earlier. Anthem claims it was first detected on January 27, 2015, but not disclosed for a week. Health care companies, including Anthem, were specifically warned by the FBI in 2014 of the increasing threat to health care companies from hackers. Yet, on information and belief, Anthem did not take the necessary and reasonable steps to protect its data storage systems from attack.

7. Reports on the Anthem data breach indicate that administrative access to the complete customer records database was available with a simple “one-factor” authentication. Meaning that by obtaining just a log-in and password, hackers obtained unfettered access.

8. Anthem has indicated that as many as five employee log-ins and passwords were compromised. But that access could have been thwarted entirely if Anthem had used a “two-factor” authentication process—that is a process which required a personal device (such as a ‘dongle’ or electronic keycard) in addition to a log-in and password for access. “[Two-factor authentication] is considered best practice for any type of company with sensitive data, and it’s rather revealing of the security health of the healthcare industry if the second-largest health insurer didn’t have it in place.”<sup>4</sup>

9. Anthem has a long history of failure to adequately protect consumer data and has been hacked on multiple occasions. For example, in 2010, a security breach allowed public access to medical records of 616,000 customers.<sup>5</sup> As described in the civil action Settlement Agreement entered on April 18, 2011, Anthem, then called WellPoint, learned as follows:

In February 2010, an individual who had submitted an application to WellPoint for health benefits coverage on behalf of her minor dependent informed the company that she believed Internet users could access the application that she had submitted as well as other applicants’ confidential information on the

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.duosecurity.com/blog/four-years-later-anthem-breached-again-hackers-stole-employee-credentials>.

<sup>5</sup> See <http://www.healthsecuritysolutions.com/2013/07/wellpoint-website-vulnerability-leads-to-1-7-m/#.VNQKUE10yUk> (Anthem was then called Wellpoint) (last accessed Feb. 6, 2015).

WellPoint web servers by deleting characters at the end of the web address for WellPoint's customer interface website.<sup>6</sup>

As a part of the Settlement Agreement, Anthem acknowledged that:

[T]he username, password and encryption security protections were not transferred to the upgraded web servers and, as a result, the electronically stored personal identifying information and personal health information of WellPoint customers, enrollees or subscribers was unprotected by username, password and encryption from on or around October 23, 2009 through on or around March 10, 2010 . . . .<sup>7</sup>

10. Anthem, as Wellpoint, also paid a \$1.7 million penalty to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of that breach.<sup>8</sup>

11. In that settlement:

The Resolution Agreement reached between Wellpoint, Inc. and HHS OCR stated several findings from the HHS investigation following the HIPAA violation. According to the report, Wellpoint, Inc. failed to implement appropriate security procedures and policies prior to allowing access to ePHI, therefore violating HIPAA security policies. The company also failed to perform technical evaluations of system security following software upgrade and failed to utilize adequate technology to identify users seeking access to sensitive information. These findings indicated inadequacies in the Wellpoint, Inc. system and clear violations of HIPAA regulations, but were not an admission of liability by the company. The Resolution Agreement ultimately determined the penalty due to HHS OCR for HIPAA violations, but did not include monies payable to individual clients who filed lawsuits following data compromise.<sup>9</sup>

12. In 2007, Wellpoint lost names, SSNs and other data regarding 196,000 customers.<sup>10</sup>

13. As reported on CBS Money Watch, "Not all data breaches are created equal, and the Anthem health insurance hack is about as bad as they get for consumers."<sup>11</sup> This data breach is far

<sup>6</sup> The full text of the Settlement Agreement in *Blue Cross of California Website Security Cases* (California Superior Court JCCP 4647) can be found at <https://anthembluecrosssecuritysettlement.com/SettlementAgreement.pdf> (last accessed Feb. 6, 2015).

<sup>7</sup> *See id.*

<sup>8</sup> *See id.*

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.itsecurity.com/features/top-security-breaches-2007-012208/> (last accessed Feb. 6, 2015).

1 more serious than recent retail chain data breaches where credit card information was stolen, such  
2 as at the retail chain, Target. “On its website, [Anthem] highlights the fact that no credit or debit  
3 card information was stolen, knowing full well that’s the least dangerous information to lose,” said  
4 Neal O’Farrell, a security and identity theft expert for CreditSesame.com. “The victims of this  
5 breach, who lost their name, date of birth, and Social Security number to hackers, now face a  
6 lifetime of potential victimization.”<sup>12</sup>

7 14. There is little doubt victims of the Anthem data breach will suffer significant and  
8 persistent financial harm as a result. “This time the crooks got Social Security numbers. For  
9 identity thieves, the Social Security number is the key that unlocks the vault, and they now have  
10 millions of them.”<sup>13</sup>

11 15. As noted in another Moneywatch article, “When a thief gets that information, we  
12 call that the perfect identity,” said John Dancu, the chief executive of technology security company  
13 IDology. “Financial institutions have been hit for several years so they have gone in and tried to  
14 harden their systems, and the next place for the fraudsters to hit is the medical system.”<sup>14</sup>

15 16. In addition to selling Anthem customer data to other fraudsters on the black market,  
16 the thieves could use the data to set up fraudulent financial accounts in victims’ names, such as  
17 credit card accounts, Dancu noted.<sup>15</sup>

18 17. With access to Social Security numbers, birthdates, employment information and  
19 income data, fraudsters could also file false tax returns, with the goal of claiming a fraudulent  
20  
21  
22

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23 <sup>11</sup> Mitch Lipka, Anthem Data Breach: Steps you need to take, available on 2/5/15 at  
24 <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/what-you-need-to-know-about-the-anthem-hack/> (last accessed  
Feb. 6, 2015).

25 <sup>12</sup> *Id.*

26 <sup>13</sup> *Id.*

27 <sup>14</sup> <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/how-hackers-might-use-your-stolen-anthem-data/> (last  
accessed Feb. 6, 2015).

28 <sup>15</sup> *Id.*

1 refund. That's a growing problem in the U.S., with the Internal Revenue Service investigating  
2 almost 1,500 cases in 2013, a jump of 66 percent from the previous year.<sup>16</sup>

3 18. Alarming, Anthem has not notified the particular victims of the data breach, and  
4 says that process could take weeks. All the while, thieves have everything they need to open false  
5 credit card accounts, bank accounts, loans, and can even file false tax returns and steal refunds  
6 owed to Anthem customers and employees whose records have been stolen.

7 19. As reported in Business Day, "This is one of the worst breaches I have ever seen,"  
8 said Paul Stephens, director of policy and advocacy for the Privacy Rights Clearinghouse, a  
9 nonprofit consumer education and advocacy group. "These people knew what they were doing and  
10 recognized there was a treasure trove here, and I think they are going to use it to engage in very  
11 sophisticated kinds of identity theft."<sup>17</sup>

## 12 **B. Anthem Collects its Customers' and Employees Personal Information**

13 20. Anthem is one of the three largest health insurance systems in the United States and  
14 is currently ranked 38th on the "Fortune 500" list of top US companies.<sup>18</sup> Anthem markets and  
15 sells health insurance directly to millions of consumers through its websites and the Blue  
16 Cross/Blue Shield "brands."

17 21. Anthem is acutely aware that the customer and employee information it stores is  
18 highly sensitive and highly valuable to identity thieves and other criminals. On its website, Anthem  
19 describes its data security policies.<sup>19</sup>

20 22. Anthem states:

### 21 **Personal Information (Including Social Security Number) Privacy Protection 22 Policy**

22 Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield maintains policies that protect the  
23 confidentiality of personal information, including Social Security numbers,

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24 <sup>16</sup> *See id.*

25 <sup>17</sup> [http://www.nytimes.com/2015/02/06/business/experts-suspect-lax-security-left-anthem-  
26 vulnerable-to-hackers.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/02/06/business/experts-suspect-lax-security-left-anthem-vulnerable-to-hackers.html) (last accessed Feb. 6, 2015).

27 <sup>18</sup> <http://fortune.com/fortune500/> (Anthem is listed under its prior name, Wellpoint) (last  
28 accessed Feb. 6, 2015).

<sup>19</sup> *See* <https://www.anthem.com/health-insurance/about-us/privacy> (last accessed Feb. 6, 2015).

1 obtained from its members and associates in the course of its regular business  
 2 functions. Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield is committed to protecting  
 3 information about its customers and associates, especially the confidential nature  
 4 of their personal information (PI).

5 Personal Information is information that is capable of being associated with an  
 6 individual through one or more identifiers including but not limited to, a Social  
 7 Security number, a driver's license number, a state identification card number, an  
 8 account number, a credit or debit card number, a passport number, an alien  
 9 registration number or a health insurance identification number, and does not  
 10 include publicly available information that is lawfully made available to the  
 11 general public from federal, state or local government records or widely  
 12 distributed media.

13 • Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield is committed to protecting the  
 14 confidentiality of Social Security numbers and other Personal Information.

15 • Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield's Privacy Policy imposes a number of  
 16 standards to:

- 17 • guard the confidentiality of Social Security numbers and other personal  
 18 information,
- 19 • prohibit the unlawful disclosure of Social Security numbers, and
- 20 • limit access to Social Security numbers.

21 Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield will not use or share Social Security numbers  
 22 or personal information with anyone outside the company except when permitted  
 23 or required by federal and state law.

24 Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Associates must only access Social Security  
 25 numbers or personal information as required by their job duties. Anthem Blue  
 26 Cross and Blue Shield has in place a minimum necessary policy which states that  
 27 associates may only access, use or disclose Social Security numbers or personal  
 28 information to complete a specific task and as allowed by law.

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield safeguards Social Security numbers and  
 other personal information by having physical, technical, and administrative  
 safeguards in place.

23. There is little question that the above policy demonstrates Anthem was well aware  
 of the need for it to protect consumers highly valuable "PI", including SSNs.

24. While Anthem's collection of customer and associate data may itself be legal, it  
 cannot be questioned that by collecting and storing such extensive and detailed customer data,  
 Anthem creates an obligation for itself to use every means available to it to protect this data from  
 falling into the hands of criminals.



1           25.     The most rudimentary of the steps Anthem could have and should have taken is  
 2 encryption. That is, Anthem should have converted customers' and employees' sensitive  
 3 information into coded strings that would not be immediately useful, or even identifiable to cyber-  
 4 thieves. Yet Anthem did not even take that step. It stored its customers and employees most  
 5 sensitive information, including SSNs, and income information in plain text, readily identifiable  
 6 and usable by anyone.<sup>20</sup>

7           26.     Anthem did not control access to PHI (Protected Health Information) and PII  
 8 (Personally Identifiable Information) in a manner consistent with healthcare industry standards for  
 9 the protection of sensitive information or with health industry regulations defined by the Health  
 10 Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). HIPAA Security Rule mandates that all  
 11 PHI is protected, that an unauthorized disclosure of PHI is treated as a security incident (HIPAA  
 12 Security Rule, 45 C.F.R. § 164.304) and that security incidents are met with a security incident  
 13 response. HIPAA Security Rule, 45 C.F.R. § 164.308(a)(6). The HIPAA security rule refers to  
 14 several standard, guideline, or recommendation documents released by the National Institutes of  
 15 Standards and Technology as methods to achieve components of HIPAA compliance. Federal  
 16 Register Vol. 68, No. 34, pp. 8346, 8350, 8352, and 8355.

### 17     **C.     The Data Breach Harmed Plaintiff and Other Class Members**

18           27.     As a result of Anthem's unfair, inadequate, and unreasonable data security, cyber-  
 19 criminals now possess the personal and financial information of Plaintiff and the Class. Unlike the  
 20 credit card data breaches, like those recently at Target Corp. and Home Depot, the harm here  
 21 cannot be attenuated by cancelling and reissuing credit cards. With SSN's, names, addresses,  
 22 emails, and employment and income information, criminals can open entirely new credit accounts  
 23 and bank accounts, and garner millions through fraud that victims will not be able to detect until it  
 24 is too late. Victims' credit profiles can be destroyed and they will lose the ability to legitimately  
 25 borrow money, obtain credit, or even open bank accounts. Further, criminals can file false federal  
 26 and state tax returns in their names, preventing or at least delaying victims' receipt of their

27           <sup>20</sup> See [http://www.nytimes.com/2015/02/06/business/experts-suspect-lax-security-left-anthem-](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/02/06/business/experts-suspect-lax-security-left-anthem-vulnerable-to-hackers.html)  
 28 [vulnerable-to-hackers.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/02/06/business/experts-suspect-lax-security-left-anthem-vulnerable-to-hackers.html) (last accessed Feb. 6, 2015).

1 legitimate tax refunds and potentially making victims targets of IRS and state tax investigations.  
2 At the very least, victims must add themselves to credit fraud watch lists, which substantially  
3 impair victims' ability to obtain additional credit. Many experts advise a flat out freeze on all  
4 credit accounts, making it impossible to rent a car, get student loans, buy or rent furniture or a new  
5 TV, let alone complete a major purchase such as a new car or home.

6 28. Immediate notice of a data breach is essential to obtain the best protection afforded  
7 by identity theft protection services. Anthem failed to provide such immediate notice, thus further  
8 exacerbating the damages sustained by Plaintiff and the Class resulting from the breach. Anthem  
9 knew its systems were compromised at least as early as January 30, 2015, yet it made no  
10 disclosures until February 4, 2015. Even then, it stated it would not notify the victims "for several  
11 weeks." Such delays are unwarranted, and increase directly the likelihood that thieves will be able  
12 to steal victims' identities before victims even know that they are at risk.

13 29. Personal and financial information is a valuable commodity. A "cyber black-  
14 market" exists in which criminals openly post stolen credit card numbers, Social Security numbers,  
15 and other personal information on a number of Internet websites. A credit card number trades for  
16 under \$10 on the black market. Magnetic track data increases the price, and a card with full  
17 personal information such as an address, phone number, and email address ("fullz") are traded at  
18 around \$25 per record.<sup>21</sup>

19 30. But this breach is far more valuable. The Anthem data breach consists of 80 million  
20 records that include name, address, email, SSN, birthdate, employment information and even  
21 income. Complete identity records like those at issue here can sell for \$250-\$400 on the black  
22 market, making this a breach potentially worth in excess of \$20 billion to cybercriminals.<sup>22</sup>

23 31. The personal and financial information that Anthem failed to adequately protect,  
24 including Plaintiff's identifying information and SSN, is "as good as gold" to identity thieves  
25

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26 <sup>21</sup> <http://motherboard.vice.com/blog/its-surprisingly-cheap-to-buy-stolen-bank-details> (last  
accessed Feb. 6, 2015).

27 <sup>22</sup> See [http://www.secureworks.com/assets/pdf-store/white-papers/wp-underground-hacking-](http://www.secureworks.com/assets/pdf-store/white-papers/wp-underground-hacking-report.pdf)  
28 [report.pdf](http://www.secureworks.com/assets/pdf-store/white-papers/wp-underground-hacking-report.pdf) at p.4 (last accessed Feb. 6, 2015).

1 because identity thieves can use victims' personal data to open new financial accounts and incur  
 2 charges in another person's name, take out loans in another person's name, incur charges on  
 3 existing accounts, and file false federal and state tax returns.

4 32. Although Anthem has suggested it may offer free credit monitoring to some  
 5 customers, the credit monitoring services do little to prevent wholesale identity theft. Moreover,  
 6 experts warn that batches of stolen information will not be immediately dumped on the black  
 7 market. "[O]ne year of credit monitoring may not be enough. Hackers tend to lay low when data  
 8 breaches are exposed...They often wait until consumers are less likely to be on the lookout for  
 9 fraudulent activities."<sup>23</sup>

10 33. This is especially true for SSNs, which unlike credit cards, are not reissued. A  
 11 cybercriminal, especially one with millions of SSN records, can hold on to stolen information for  
 12 years until the news of the theft has subsided, then steal a victim's identity, credit, and bank  
 13 accounts, resulting in thousands of dollars in losses and lost time and productivity. Thus, Plaintiff  
 14 and the Class must take additional steps to protect their identities.

## 15 II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

16 34. This Court has diversity jurisdiction over this action under the Class Action Fairness  
 17 Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2). At least one Plaintiff and Defendant are citizens of different states. The  
 18 amount in controversy exceeds \$5 million, exclusive of interest and costs, and there are more than  
 19 100 putative class members.

20 35. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Anthem because Anthem is licensed to do  
 21 business in California, regularly conducts business in California, and has minimum contacts with  
 22 California.

23 36. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) because Anthem  
 24 regularly conducts business and resides in this district, a substantial part of the events, acts, and  
 25 omissions giving rise to Plaintiff's claims were committed in this district, Plaintiff resides in this  
 26 district, and property that is the subject of Plaintiff's claims are in this district.

27 <sup>23</sup> <http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702304856504579337263720948556>  
 28 (last accessed Feb. 6, 2015).

### III. PARTIES

37. Plaintiff Fazi Zand resides in San Francisco, CA and is a current Anthem health insurance customer under Blue Shield Blue Cross.

38. In the first week of February, 2015, Plaintiff read news reports describing the Anthem data breach and indicating that information concerning current and former Anthem customers had been stolen, in addition to records of Anthem employees.

39. On February 4, 2015, Plaintiff received the following email from Anthem:

Safeguarding your personal, financial and medical information is one of our top priorities, and because of that, we have state-of-the-art information security systems to protect your data. However, despite our efforts, Anthem Blue Cross was the target of a very sophisticated external cyber attack. These attackers gained unauthorized access to Anthem's IT system and have obtained personal information from our current and former members such as their names, birthdays, medical IDs/social security numbers, street addresses, email addresses and employment information, including income data. Based on what we know now, there is no evidence that credit card or medical information (such as claims, test results or diagnostic codes) were targeted or compromised.

Once the attack was discovered, Anthem immediately made every effort to close the security vulnerability, contacted the FBI and began fully cooperating with their investigation. Anthem has also retained Mandiant, one of the world's leading cybersecurity firms, to evaluate our systems and identify solutions based on the evolving landscape.

Anthem's own associates' personal information – including my own – was accessed during this security breach. We join you in your concern and frustration, and I assure you that we are working around the clock to do everything we can to further secure your data.

Anthem will individually notify current and former members whose information has been accessed. We will provide credit monitoring and identity protection services free of charge so that those who have been affected can have peace of mind. We have created a dedicated website - AnthemFacts.com - where members can access information such as frequent questions and answers. As we learn more, we will continually update this website and share that information with you. We have also established a dedicated toll-free number that both current and former members can call if they have questions related to this incident. That number is: 1-877-263-7995.

I want to personally apologize to each of you for what has happened, as I know you expect us to protect your information. We will continue to do everything in our power to make our systems and security processes better and more secure, and hope that we can earn back your trust and confidence in Anthem.

1  
2 Sincerely,  
3 Joseph Swedish  
4 President and CEO  
5 Anthem, Inc.

6 40. Plaintiff visited the Anthem website to try and determine whether his records were  
7 affected. He found no information on the website that was helpful to him.

8 41. Plaintiff has not been contacted again by Anthem since the February 4, 2105 email.

9 42. Plaintiff is highly concerned that his social security number, as well as his wife's  
10 and his son's Social Security numbers have been stolen. Plaintiff has contacted Equifax to place a  
11 fraud alert on his entire family's credit files.

12 43. Plaintiff was harmed in having his personal, health, and financial information  
13 associated with his health insurance compromised as a result of the Anthem data breach. Plaintiff  
14 provided medical information and financial information to Anthem. Anthem's conclusory  
15 statements about the breach and the hacker's infiltration of Anthem's network where records were  
16 kept without encryption or two-factor password protection makes it likely additional medical  
17 information (beyond the fact Plaintiff was covered by Anthem health insurance) and credit card  
18 information, were also unsecure and obtained by the unauthorized parties.

19 44. Plaintiff would not have given his personal health and financial information to  
20 Anthem for his health insurance had Anthem informed him that it lacked adequate computer  
21 network and data security to secure his and other Anthem customers' personal, health, and  
22 financial information.

23 45. Plaintiff suffered actual injury from having his financial, health, and personal  
24 information compromised and stolen as a result of the Anthem data breach, and was further injured  
25 by Anthem's failure to provide timely and accurate notice that his data had been breached.

26 46. Plaintiff suffered actual injury and damages in purchasing insurance from, and  
27 paying money to, Anthem before and during the Anthem data breach that he would not have paid  
28 Anthem: (1) had it disclosed that it lacked computer network and data security to adequately

1 protect his and other customers personal, health, and financial information, or (2) had Anthem  
2 provided timely and accurate notice that his data had been breached.

3 47. Defendant Anthem, Inc., doing business as Anthem Health, Inc. is an Indiana  
4 corporation registered with the California Secretary of State to do business in California with its  
5 corporate headquarters at 120 Monument Circle, Indianapolis, IN.

6 48. Defendant The Anthem Companies, Inc. is an Indiana corporation, registered with  
7 the California Secretary of State to do business in California with its corporate headquarters in  
8 Indianapolis, IN.

9 49. Through its subsidiary Anthem Insurance Companies, Inc., also an Indiana  
10 corporation, Anthem, Inc. provides healthcare benefits through Blue Cross and Blue Shield plans in  
11 California, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Missouri, Nevada, New  
12 Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Virginia and Wisconsin. Anthem, Inc., The Anthem Companies, Inc.,  
13 its subsidiaries, and healthcare plans are collectively referred to as “Anthem” in this Complaint

#### 14 **IV. CLASS ALLEGATIONS**

15 50. Pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff brings this  
16 action as a national class action for himself and all members of the following Class of similarly  
17 situated individuals and entities:

##### 18 **The Nationwide Class**

19 All persons in the United States whose personal information was  
20 compromised as a result of the data breach first disclosed by Anthem  
on February 4, 2015.

21 51. Excluded from the Class are Defendant, including any entity in which Defendant  
22 has a controlling interest, is a parent or subsidiary, or which is controlled by Defendant, as well as  
23 the officers, directors, affiliates, legal representatives, heirs, predecessors, successors, and assigns  
24 of Defendant.

25 52. Plaintiff also seeks to certify the following Subclass of the Nationwide Class (the  
26 “California Subclasses”):  
27  
28

**The California Subclass**

All members of the Class who are residents of California or purchased health insurance from an Anthem company in California.

53. Certification of Plaintiff's claims for class-wide treatment is appropriate because Plaintiff can prove the elements of their claims on a class-wide basis using the same evidence as would be used to prove those elements in individual actions alleging the same claims.

54. All members of the proposed Class and subclasses are readily ascertainable. Anthem has access to addresses and other contact information for all members of the Class, which can be used for providing notice to Class members.

55. **Numerosity.** The Class is so numerous that joinder of all members is unfeasible and not practical. While the precise number of Class members has not been determined at this time, Anthem has admitted that 80 million records were stolen relating to past and current customers and employees, and it has over 37 million current health insurance customers.

56. **Commonality.** Questions of law and fact common to all Class members exist and predominate over any questions affecting only individual Class members, including, *inter alia*:

- a. whether Anthem engaged in the wrongful conduct alleged herein;
- b. whether Anthem's conduct was deceptive, unfair, and/or unlawful;
- c. whether Anthem owed a duty to Plaintiff and members of the Class to adequately protect their personal, health, and financial information;
- d. whether Anthem owed a duty to provide timely and accurate notice of the Anthem data breach to Plaintiff and members of the Class;
- e. whether Anthem's conduct was likely to deceive a reasonable person;
- f. whether Anthem used reasonable and industry-standard measures to protect Class members' personal information;
- g. whether Anthem knew or should have known that its data system was vulnerable to attack;

- h. whether Anthem should have maintained information of past subscribers in its database instead of purging and deleting all information of non-current subscribers;
- i. whether Anthem's conduct, including its failure to act, resulted in or was the proximate cause of the breach of its systems, resulting in the loss of millions of consumers' personal, health, and financial data;
- j. whether Anthem should have notified the public immediately after it learned of the data breach;
- k. whether Anthem violated California Business and Professions Code § 17200, *et. seq.*;
- l. whether Plaintiff and Class members are entitled to recover actual damages, statutory damages, and/or punitive damages; and
- m. whether Plaintiff and Class members are entitled to restitution, disgorgement, and/or other equitable relief.

57. **Typicality.** Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the Class. Plaintiff and all Class members were injured through the uniform misconduct described above and assert the same claims for relief.

58. **Adequacy.** Plaintiff and his counsel will fairly and adequately represent the interests of the Class members. Plaintiff has no interests antagonistic to, or in conflict with, the interests of the Class members. Plaintiff's lawyers are highly experienced in the prosecution of consumer class actions and complex commercial litigation.

59. **Superiority.** A class action is superior to all other available methods for fairly and efficiently adjudicating the claims of Plaintiff and the Class members. Plaintiff and the Class members have been harmed by Anthem's wrongful actions and/or inaction. Litigating this case as a class action will reduce the possibility of repetitious litigation relating to Anthem's wrongful actions and/or inaction.

60. Class certification, therefore, is appropriate under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(3), because the above common questions of law or fact predominate over any questions affecting individual



1 members of the Class, and a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and  
2 efficient adjudication of this controversy.

3 61. Class certification also is appropriate under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(2) because  
4 Anthem has acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to the Class, so that final  
5 injunctive relief or corresponding declaratory relief is appropriate as to the Class as a whole.

6 62. The expense and burden of litigation would substantially impair the ability of  
7 Plaintiff and Class members to pursue individual lawsuits to vindicate their rights. Absent a class  
8 action, Anthem will retain the benefits of its wrongdoing despite its serious violations of the law.

## 9 **V. COUNTS**

### 10 **COUNT I**

#### 11 **Negligence**

#### 12 **(On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Nationwide Class)**

13 63. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference the allegations contained in the  
14 preceding paragraphs.

15 64. By accepting Plaintiff's and Class members' non-public personal information,  
16 Anthem assumed a duty requiring it to use reasonable and, at the very least, industry-standard care  
17 to secure such information against theft and misuse.

18 65. Anthem breached its duty of care by failing to adequately secure and protect  
19 Plaintiff's and the Class members' personal information from theft, collection and misuse by third  
20 parties.

21 66. Anthem further breached its duty of care by failing to promptly, clearly, accurately,  
22 and completely inform Plaintiff and the Class that their personal information had been stolen.

23 67. Anthem further breached its duty of care by failing to purge and delete records  
24 related to former Anthem customers. There was no legitimate reason for Anthem to retain the  
25 information of former customers and store it on their customer records database.

26 68. Plaintiff and the Class have suffered injury in fact, including monetary damages,  
27 and will continue to be injured and incur damages as a result of Anthem's negligence and  
28 misconduct.

69. As a direct and proximate result of Anthem's failure to take reasonable care and use at least industry-standard measures to protect the personal information placed in its care, and failure to purge and delete the information relating to former customers, Plaintiff and members of the Class had their personal information stolen, causing direct and measurable monetary losses, threat of future losses, identity theft and threat of identity theft.

70. As a direct and proximate result of Anthem's negligence and misconduct, Plaintiff and the Class were injured in fact by: identity theft; damage to credit scores and credit reports; time and expense related to: (a) finding fraudulent accounts; (b) monitoring their identity; (c) credit monitoring and identity theft prevention; (d) income tax refund fraud the potential for income tax refund fraud; (e) the general nuisance and annoyance of dealing with all these issues resulting from the Anthem data breach; and (j) costs associated with the loss of productivity from taking time to ameliorate the actual and future consequences of the Anthem data breach, all of which have an ascertainable monetary value to be proven at trial.

## COUNT II

### *Negligence per se*

#### **(On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Nationwide Class)**

71. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs.

72. Pursuant to the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, 15 U.S.C. § 6801, Anthem had a duty to keep and protect the personal information of its customers.

73. Anthem violated the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act by failing to keep and protect Plaintiff's and Class members' personal and financial information, failing to monitor, and/or failing to ensure that Defendant complied with data security standards, industry standards, statutes and/or other regulations to protect such personal and financial information.

74. Anthem's failure to comply with the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, and/or other industry standards and regulations, constitutes negligence per se.





1 between the price they paid for Anthem's services as promised and the actual diminished value of  
2 its services.

3 90. Plaintiff and the Class have conferred directly upon Anthem an economic benefit in  
4 the nature of monies received and profits resulting from sales and unlawful overcharges to the  
5 economic detriment of Plaintiff and the Class.

6 91. The economic benefit, including the monies paid and the overcharges and profits  
7 derived by Anthem and paid by Plaintiff and members of the Class, is a direct and proximate result  
8 of Anthem's unlawful practices as set forth in this Complaint.

9 92. The financial benefits derived by Anthem rightfully belong to Plaintiff and members  
10 of the Class.

11 93. It would be inequitable under established unjust enrichment principles of the states  
12 where Anthem conducts business for Anthem to be permitted to retain any of the financial benefits,  
13 monies, profits, and overcharges derived from its unlawful conduct as set forth in this Complaint.

14 94. Anthem should be compelled to disgorge into a common fund for the benefit of  
15 Plaintiff and the Class all unlawful or inequitable proceeds received by Anthem.

16 95. A constructive trust should be imposed upon all unlawful or inequitable sums  
17 received by Anthem traceable to Plaintiff and the Class.

18 96. Plaintiff and the Class have no adequate remedy at law.

## 19 **COUNT V**

### 20 **Violation of Indiana Code § 24-5-0.5, *et seq.***

#### 21 **(On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Nationwide Class)**

22 97. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference the allegations contained in the  
23 preceding paragraphs.

24 98. As a citizen of Indiana, Anthem is subject to Indiana law in its dealings throughout  
25 the United States.

26 99. Indiana prohibits a person from engaging in deceptive acts, which are specifically  
27 defined in relevant part as representations:  
28

(1) That such subject of a consumer transaction has . . . characteristics . . . it does not have which the supplier knows or should reasonably know it does not have.

(2) That such subject of a consumer transaction is of a particular standard, quality, grade, style, or model, if it is not and the supplier knows or should reasonably know that it is not.

(6) That a specific price advantage exists as to such subject of a consumer transaction, if it does not and if the supplier knows or should reasonably know that it does not.

IND. CODE § 24-5-0.5-3(a). A “consumer transaction” includes the sale of personal property for purposes that are primarily personal. IND. CODE § 24-5-0.5-2(1). “Person” includes a corporation. IND. CODE § 24-5-0.5-2(2). “Supplier” is a seller or other person who regularly engages in or solicits consumer transactions and includes a manufacturer “whether or not the person deals directly with the consumer.” IND. CODE § 24-5-0.5-2(a)(3).

100. The statute is to be liberally construed and applied to promote its purposes, which are to “(1) simplify, clarify, and modernize the law governing deceptive and unconscionable consumer sales practices; (2) protect consumers from suppliers who commit deceptive and unconscionable sales acts; and (3) encourage the development of fair consumer sales practices.” IND. CODE § 24-5-0.5-1(a), (b).

101. For the reasons discussed above, Anthem violated (and, on information and belief, continues to violate) § 24-5-0.5 by engaging in the above-described and prohibited unlawful, unfair, fraudulent, deceptive, untrue, and misleading acts and practices.

102. Anthem violated § 24-5-0.5 by accepting and storing Plaintiff’s and the Class members’ personal and financial information but failing to take reasonable steps to protect it. In violation of industry standards and best practices, Anthem also violated consumer expectations to safeguard personal and financial information and failed to tell consumers that it did not have reasonable and best practices, safeguards and data security in place.

103. Anthem also violated § 24-5-0.5 by failing to immediately notify Plaintiff and the Class of the Anthem data breach. If Plaintiff and the Class had been notified in an appropriate

1 fashion, they could have taken precautions to better safeguard their personal and financial  
2 information.

3 104. “A person relying upon an uncured or incurable deceptive act may bring an action  
4 for the damages actually suffered as a consumer as a result of the deceptive act or five hundred  
5 dollars (\$500), whichever is greater.” IND. CODE § 24-5-0.5-4(a). An “uncured deceptive act”  
6 occurs when a consumer who has been damaged gives pre-suit notice and the defendant fails to  
7 cure. IND. CODE § 24-5-0.5-2(a)(7). An “incurable deceptive act” is one “done by a supplier as  
8 part of a scheme, artifice, or device with intent to defraud or mislead.” IND. CODE § 24-5-0.5-  
9 2(a)(8). If the defendant is found to have acted willfully, the Court may treble the damages or  
10 award \$1,000, whichever is greater. IND. CODE § 24-5-0.5-4(a).

11 105. On information and belief, Anthem’s unlawful, fraudulent, and unfair business acts  
12 and practices, except as otherwise indicated herein, continue to this day and are ongoing. As a  
13 direct and/or proximate result of Anthem’s unlawful, unfair, and fraudulent practices, Plaintiff and  
14 the Class have suffered injury in fact and lost money in connection with the Anthem data breach,  
15 for which they are entitled to compensation – as well as restitution, disgorgement, and/or other  
16 equitable relief. Plaintiff and the Class were injured in fact by: unauthorized activity on their  
17 accounts; damage to credit scores and credit reports; time and expense related to: (a) finding  
18 fraudulent charges; (b) cancelling and reissuing cards; (c) credit monitoring and identity theft  
19 prevention; (d) imposition of withdrawal and purchase limits on compromised accounts;  
20 (e) inability to withdraw funds held in linked checking accounts; (f) trips to banks and waiting in  
21 line to obtain funds held in limited accounts; (g) resetting automatic billing instructions; (h) late  
22 fees and declined payment fees imposed as a result of failed automatic payments; (i) the general  
23 nuisance and annoyance of dealing with all these issues resulting from the Anthem data breach;  
24 and (j) costs associated with the loss of productivity from taking time to ameliorate the actual and  
25 future consequences of the Anthem data breach, all of which have an ascertainable monetary value  
26 to be proven at trial.

**COUNT VI**

**Violation of California Data Breach Act**

**CAL. CIV. CODE § 1798.80, *et seq.***

**(On Behalf of Plaintiff and the California Subclass)**

106. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs.

107. Section 1798.82 of the CALIFORNIA CIVIL CODE provides, in pertinent part, as follows:

(a) Any person or business that conducts business in California, and that owns or licenses computerized data that includes personal information, shall disclose any breach of the security of the system following discovery or notification of the breach in the security of the data to any resident of California whose unencrypted personal information was, or is reasonably believed to have been, acquired by an unauthorized person. The disclosure shall be made in the most expedient time possible and without unreasonable delay, consistent with the legitimate needs of law enforcement, as provided in subdivision (c), or any measures necessary to determine the scope of the breach and restore the reasonable integrity of the data system.

(b) Any person or business that maintains computerized data that includes personal information that the person or business does not own shall notify the owner or licensee of the information of any breach of the security of the data immediately following discovery, if the personal information was, or is reasonably believed to have been, acquired by an unauthorized person.

(c) The notification required by this section may be delayed if a law enforcement agency determines that the notification will impede a criminal investigation. The notification required by this section shall be made after the law enforcement agency determines that it will not compromise the investigation.

(d) Any person or business that is required to issue a security breach notification pursuant to this section shall meet all of the following requirements:

(1) The security breach notification shall be written in plain language.

(2) The security breach notification shall include, at a minimum, the following information:



(A) The name and contact information of the reporting person or business subject to this section.

(B) A list of the types of personal information that were or are reasonably believed to have been the subject of a breach.

(C) If the information is possible to determine at the time the notice is provided, then any of the following: (i) the date of the breach, (ii) the estimated date of the breach, or (iii) the date range within which the breach occurred. The notification shall also include the date of the notice.

(D) Whether notification was delayed as a result of a law enforcement investigation, if that information is possible to determine at the time the notice is provided.

(E) A general description of the breach incident, if that information is possible to determine at the time the notice is provided.

(F) The toll-free telephone numbers and addresses of the major credit reporting agencies if the breach exposed a social security number or a driver's license or California identification card number.

\* \* \*

(f) Any person or business that is required to issue a security breach notification pursuant to this section to more than 500 California residents as a result of a single breach of the security system shall electronically submit a single sample copy of that security breach notification, excluding any personally identifiable information, to the Attorney General. A single sample copy of a security breach notification shall not be deemed to be within subdivision (f) of Section 6254 of the Government Code.

(g) For purposes of this section, "breach of the security of the system" means unauthorized acquisition of computerized data that compromises the security, confidentiality, or integrity of personal information maintained by the person or business. Good faith acquisition of personal information by an employee or agent of the person or business for the purposes of the person or business is not a breach of the security of the system, provided that the personal information is not used or subject to further unauthorized disclosure.

108. The Anthem data breach constituted a "breach of the security system" of Anthem.

1           109. Plaintiff's names, addresses, emails, birthdates, Social Security numbers,  
2 employment and income information constitute "personal information."

3           110. Anthem unreasonably delayed in informing anyone about the breach of security of  
4 Class members' confidential and non-public information after Anthem knew the data breach had  
5 occurred.

6           111. Anthem failed to disclose to Class members without unreasonable delay and in the  
7 most expedient time possible, the breach of security of consumers' personal and financial  
8 information when they knew or reasonably believed such information had been compromised.

9           112. Upon information and belief, no law enforcement agency instructed Anthem that  
10 notification to Class members would impede investigation.

11           113. Pursuant to Section 1798.84 of the CALIFORNIA CIVIL CODE:

12                   (a) Any waiver of a provision of this title is contrary to public policy  
13 and is void and unenforceable.

14                   (b) Any customer injured by a violation of this title may institute a  
civil action to recover damages.

15                   (c) In addition, for a willful, intentional, or reckless violation of  
16 Section 1798.83, a customer may recover a civil penalty not to  
17 exceed three thousand dollars (\$3,000) per violation; otherwise, the  
18 customer may recover a civil penalty of up to five hundred dollars  
(\$500) per violation for a violation of Section 1798.83.

19                                   \*           \*           \*

20                   (e) Any business that violates, proposes to violate, or has violated  
21 this title may be enjoined.

22           114. Plaintiff individually and on behalf of the Class seek all remedies available under  
23 CAL. CIV. CODE § 1798.84, including, but not limited to: (a) damages suffered by Class members  
24 as alleged above; (b) statutory damages for Anthem's willful, intentional, and/or reckless violation  
25 of CAL. CIV. CODE § 1798.83; and (c) equitable relief.

26           115. Plaintiff on behalf of themselves and the Class also seek reasonable attorneys' fees  
27 and costs under CAL. CIV. CODE § 1798.84(g).  
28

**COUNT VII**

**Violation of the California Confidentiality of Medical Information Act**

**CAL. CIV. CODE § 56, *et seq.***

**(On Behalf of Plaintiff and the California Subclass)**

116. Plaintiff incorporates the substantive allegations contained in all previous paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

117. Anthem is a provider of health care within the meaning of Civil Code § 56.06(a) and maintains medical information as defined by Civil Code § 56.05(g).

118. Plaintiff is a patient of Anthem, as defined in Civil Code § 56.05(h). Anthem maintains personal medical information of Plaintiff and the Class.

119. Anthem has misused and/or disclosed medical information regarding Plaintiff without written authorization compliant with the provisions of Civil Code § 56, *et seq.*

120. Anthems' misuse and/or disclosure of medical information regarding the Plaintiff and the Class constitute a violation of Civil Code §§ 56.10, 56.11, 56.13, and 56.26.

121. Plaintiff and the Class have suffered damages from the improper misuse and/or disclosure of their medical information and therefore Plaintiff and the Class seek relief under Civil Code §§ 56.35 and 56.36.

122. Plaintiff and the Class seek actual damages, statutory damage, statutory penalties, attorney fees and costs pursuant to Civil Code §§ 56.35 and 56.36.

**COUNT VIII**

**Violation of California's Unfair Competition Law ("UCL")**

**CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17200, *et seq.***

**(On Behalf of Plaintiff and the California Subclass)**

123. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs.

124. Anthem engaged in unfair, unlawful, and fraudulent business practices in violation of the UCL.

1           125. California Business & Professions Code § 17200 prohibits any “unlawful, unfair or  
2 fraudulent business act or practice and unfair, deceptive, untrue or misleading advertising.” For the  
3 reasons discussed above, Anthem violated (and, on information and belief, continues to violate)  
4 California Business & Professions Code § 17200 by engaging in the above-described and  
5 prohibited unlawful, unfair, fraudulent, deceptive, untrue, and misleading acts and practices.

6           126. Anthem violated the UCL by accepting and storing Plaintiff’s and the Class  
7 members’ personal and financial information but failing to take reasonable steps to protect it. In  
8 violation of industry standards and best practices, Anthem also violated consumer expectations to  
9 safeguard personal and financial information and failed to tell consumers that it did not have  
10 reasonable and best practices, safeguards and data security in place.

11           127. Anthem also violated the UCL by failing to immediately notify Plaintiff and the  
12 Class of the Anthem data breach. If Plaintiff and the Class had been notified in an appropriate  
13 fashion, they could have taken precautions to better safeguard their personal and financial  
14 information.

15           128. Anthem’s above-described wrongful acts and practices also constitute “unlawful”  
16 business acts and practices in violation of California’s fraud and deceit statutes, CIVIL CODE  
17 §§ 1572, 1573, 1709, 1711, California’s Data Breach Act, CIVIL CODE § 1798.80, *et seq.*, BUSINESS  
18 & PROFESSIONS CODE §§ 17200, *et seq.*, §§ 17500, *et seq.*, and the common law.

19           129. Anthem’s above-described wrongful acts and practices also constitute “unfair”  
20 business acts and practices, in that the harm caused by Anthem’s above wrongful conduct  
21 outweighs any utility of such conduct, and such conduct (i) offends public policy, (ii) is immoral,  
22 unscrupulous, unethical, oppressive, deceitful and offensive, and/or (iii) has caused (and will  
23 continue to cause) substantial injury to consumers, such as Plaintiff and the Class. There were  
24 reasonably available alternatives to further Anthem’s legitimate business interests, including using  
25 best practices to protect the personal and financial information, other than Anthem’s wrongful  
26 conduct described herein.

27           130. Plaintiff alleges violations of California consumer protection and unfair competition  
28 laws resulting in harm to consumers. Plaintiff asserts violations of public policy against engaging

1 in unfair competition, and deceptive conduct towards consumers. This conduct also constitutes  
 2 violations of the “unfair” prong of California Business and Professions Code § 17200.

3 131. On information and belief, Anthem’s unlawful, fraudulent, and unfair business acts  
 4 and practices, except as otherwise indicated herein, continue to this day and are ongoing. As a  
 5 direct and/or proximate result of Anthem’s unlawful, unfair, and fraudulent practices, Plaintiff and  
 6 the Class have suffered injury in fact and lost money in connection with the Anthem data breach,  
 7 for which they are entitled to compensation – as well as restitution, disgorgement, and/or other  
 8 equitable relief. Plaintiff and the Class were injured in fact by: fraud on their accounts; damage to  
 9 credit scores and credit reports; time and expense related to: (a) finding fraudulent charges and  
 10 accounts; (b) cancelling and reissuing cards; (c) credit monitoring and identity theft prevention; (d)  
 11 imposition of withdrawal and purchase limits on compromised accounts; (e) trips to banks and  
 12 waiting in line to obtain funds held in limited accounts; (f) resetting automatic billing instructions;  
 13 (g) late fees and declined payment fees imposed as a result of failed automatic payments; (h) the  
 14 general nuisance and annoyance of dealing with all these issues resulting from the Anthem data  
 15 breach; and (i) costs associated with the loss of productivity from taking time to ameliorate the  
 16 actual and future consequences of the Anthem data breach, all of which have an ascertainable  
 17 monetary value to be proven at trial.

18 132. Plaintiff, for himself and the Class, also are entitled to injunctive relief, under  
 19 California Business and Professions Code §§ 17203, 17204, to stop Anthem’s above-described  
 20 wrongful acts and practices and require Anthem to maintain adequate or reasonable security  
 21 measures to protect the personal and financial information in its possession or, in the alternative,  
 22 for restitution and/or disgorgement.

### 23 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

24 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests the following relief:

25 A. That the Court certify this case as a class action and appoint the named Plaintiff to  
 26 be Class representative and his counsel to be Class counsel;

27 B. That the Court award Plaintiff and the Class appropriate relief, to include actual and  
 28 statutory damages, disgorgement, and restitution;

1 C. That the Court award Plaintiff and the Class preliminary or other equitable or  
2 declaratory relief as may be appropriate by way of applicable state or federal law;

3 D. Such additional orders or judgments as may be necessary to prevent these practices  
4 and to restore to any person in interest any money or property which may have been acquired by  
5 means of the violations; and

6 E. That the Court award Plaintiff and the Class such other, favorable relief as may be  
7 available and appropriate under law or at equity.

8 **JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

9 Plaintiffs demand a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

10 DATED: February 10, 2015

11 By /s/ Thomas E. Loeser  
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